

AGRICULTURE IN SOUTHERN NYE COUNTY IS DEVELOPING RAPIDLY

Too much attention is paid to the mining and quarrying industries of southern Nye and not enough to the gradual reclamation of the Amargosa valley from desert conditions. From the time the tourist enters the upper Amargosa at Springdale (now called Pioneer) to some distance south of the Narrows, below Beatty, he is constantly passing small farms which will some day form the nucleus of a great grazing and farming country.

A decade since, there was not a ranch worth mentioning in the entire Amargosa. A more barren land could scarcely be conceived. Now the valley boasts several fields, ranging from twelve to twenty acres in extent, and each year sees more of the land brought under cultivation.

At the old town of Springdale, the ranch of A. L. Lidwell is the first seen and, therefore, mentioned. This land has been in cultivation for the past seven years, but it is only in the last year or so that the owner realized the necessity of drainage to the extent of putting in drainage ditches, which have rendered available a considerable acreage heretofore valueless owing to the proximity of the water flow to the surface. Several acres of corn land are under cultivation here and prospects for the future are indeed good.

A mile down the road landowners are now boring for water, unfortunately not the artesian flow, but the work is a step in the right direction. Both Messrs. Kimball and Burrell have ranches in this section which have been brought under in the last few years and are now producing in profitable shape. Porter Bros. valley ranch boasts of some twelve acres in excellent alfalfa this year and on this farm several head of hogs are now running. Cattle are being fattened at both Kimball and Anderson properties.

Work done by J. R. Ryan on a

location made eighteen months ago is showing the land up well and the coming year should see a good crop from this farm. The ranch of E. E. Palmer is one of the show places of the valley, its beauty being enhanced by the big trees near the old springs.

So far, it is to be regretted that the farming has been almost solely of the "boom" variety. That is to say, the agriculturists have operated only where all conditions, with special reference to water, were the best. The result is that by far the greater portion of available land is still idle and will be until someone comes in with courage of convictions sufficient to start by well boring and make some endeavor to determine the actual possibilities of the valley. The only farm of which this is not true is that of T. I. Post, below the Narrows. Here Mr. Post has conveyed his water by ditching from the narrow to the ground and made selection the primary consideration, other than water facilities. Last year he was unfortunate in getting the water onto the land, with the result that his crop was lost. This year alfalfa, with a nurse crop of wheat, has brought him a four-ton wheat cutting (on some ten acres) and the alfalfa is coming through sturdily. There will probably be two good cuttings from this ranch during the season.

Wherever the land has been put under properly there has been no difficulty in getting from four to five cuttings a year. With this assurance it is rather surprising that more attention is not being paid to the agricultural opportunities of southern Nye, but, as was stated at the beginning, the attention paid to mining and kindred interests has overshadowed the land development, which, after all, is the only true economic basis for the ultimate wealth of Nye county.

ending procession for miles ahead and behind. A great cloud of dust hung over this cavalcade, and the green fields were covered as with frost from the fall of dust. The four-horse teams strained along, keeping the ranks close together. Every conceivable sort of war stores was in this moving train—boxes and barrels and bales of food for men and animals; high wire cables set on end, two to a wagon; ordnance carts piled high with boxes and shells; lorries with ugly-looking quick-fire guns, and vans loaded with coils of barbed wire and with sharp-pointed stakes used in the trenches and chevaux-de-frise.

"And this goes on night and day," said Major Camut. "Yes, it is busiest at night near the front, for the moving is dangerous in the daytime, so that the last laps, near the fighting line, start at dusk and go steadily through the night."

And besides the activity of the highway, the fields alongside were equally busy. Here a cavalry camp was posted, and horses were tethered, not by hundreds, but by thousands. At one side a spur of railroad had been run to a camp depot, and here the freight cars were unloading supplies and the army vans were carrying them forward. Soldiers and camp followers and peasants were working at their innumerable occupations. One of these groups, massed at a crossroad, looked like a market scene in Jerusalem, with all races and languages—Africans from Algiers and mongrel Moors from the borders of Tunis and Morocco, Senegalese as black as coal, and yellow-faced Anamites; the most of these French colonials in fez and zouave outfit; along with the French poilus in their gray-blue uniforms, soiled and grimy, and steel casques; and French territorials in the old-time red and blue uniform with baggy trousers.

The most striking thing in this great field of activity was the regularity with which it was all going on, suggesting a perfection and sureness of organization. There was no confusion, and this tremendous machinery of warfare was running with the precision and smoothness of the delicate works of a watch.

General Antoine took a personal interest in the "depot d'eclopes," as it is called—an extensive organization

run by slightly wounded men. General Antoine originated the idea and it has spread all through the army, these depots back of the front doing scores of helpful little duties for the men on the firing line. Here there was an immense laundry turning out a wash of 10,000 pieces.

"It helps the man in the trench to have a clean shirt," said General Antoine as he showed the stocks of flannel shirts about to be returned to the men in front.

There were kitchen gardens for fresh vegetables, forges for mending trench tools, armories for cleaning guns, a candle factory, and innumerable other activities, all run by soldiers who had lost a finger or the edge of an ear, or had some other slight wound temporarily incapacitating them.

LANDSLIDE BETWEEN TALLAC AND MCKINNEY'S BLOCKS ROAD

Now that the road over the mountains by way of Placerville and Lake Tahoe is clear of snow and open for travel, and the knowledge is becoming general in California, auto tourists are becoming numerous on the streets of Carson.

Yesterday J. L. Taylor of Berkeley and E. V. Taylor of Oakland arrived in Carson and report that they came over the mountains by way of Clisco and Truckee, and that there is considerable snow on the road near the summit, and that it is very difficult to travel in the vicinity of Donner lake. Also that at Emerald bay, between Tallac and McKinney's, there is a bad obstruction in the road and it will probably be a week or more before the difficulty is removed. Men are at work on the slide—Carson News.

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HUMAN ANT AT ELY

The driver of an auto truck in the Ely district leaves Piermont at 5 a. m. and takes a load of wood to Currie. He then goes to the Stuart mill in Eagle canyon, takes on another load and returns to Piermont, getting there at midnight. The man would find it difficult to make a living if the days were less than 24 hours long.

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MAIN STREET

FRENCH GENERALS MIX FREELY WITH THEIR MEN IN THE FIELD

(By Associated Press.)

HEADQUARTERS, TENTH ARMY CORPS, AT THE FRONT, France, June 16 (Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—General Antoine commander of the Tenth Army corps, was bending over a military map at his headquarters when M. Painleve, a member of the French cabinet, was announced. General de Castelnau, commanding the western front, had invited the minister to visit the several corps headquarters near Verdun, and had authorized the representative of the Associated Press to

accompany the minister. It was the first day of this trip of inspection, made under most favorable auspices, designed to show the cabinet officer the exact condition of affairs on the fighting line—the offensive and defensive organization.

General Antoine, with a group of staff officers, led the way through the mazes of the vast camp. Such a scene of varied and intense activity. It fairly throbbled as the visitors passed along. Wagons, wagons, stretching away in un-

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